Expungement Process

Administrative Office of the Courts

Court Services Division

June 2021

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Expungement Authority

• Effective July 12, 2021, persons who are eligible for expungement may begin petitioning the courts for relief as provided by the Smart and Safe Arizona Act, Proposition 207. All trial courts shall accept petitions for expungement of records for the arrest, charge, adjudication, conviction, or sentence of any offense cited in A.R.S. § 36-2862.

Expungement Authority

- Administrative Order 2021-82 establishes standardized procedures for justice of the peace, municipal, and superior courts to implement the expungement process.
- Rule 36, Rules of Criminal Procedure, Expunging Marijuana Records and Restoring Civil Rights, governs petitions to expunge records, vacate convictions, and restore civil rights that are filed pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2862.
- Administrative Directive 2021-14, adopts standardized forms for use in expungement cases. Approved forms include Instructions for Seeking Expungement, Expungement Petition for Superior Court, and Expungement Petition for Municipal/Justice Court, and order forms for limited jurisdiction and superior courts.

Eligible
Violations for
Expungement

13-3405	Marijuana Violation
13-3405A	Marijuana Violation
13-3405A1	Marijuana-possess/use
13-3405A3	Marijuana-produce
13-3405A4	Marijuana-transport and/or sell
13-3408	Narcotic Drug Violation
13-3408A	Narcotic Drug Violation
13-3408A1	Narcotic Drug-possess/use
13-3408A4	Narcotic-Drug-Manufacture
13-3408A7	Narc Drug-Transp and/or sell
13-3415	Drug paraphernalia Violation
13-3415A	Drug paraphernalia-possess/use
13-3415B	Drug paraphernalia-deliver/mfg

Automation Updates

New Disposition Code

New Event Codes New Case Type New Case Sub Type New Appearance Reason

New Disposition Code

Disposition	Description	MVD	DPS		
Code		Code	Code		
EX	EX-EXPUNGED	78	EX		

^{*}EX can only overlay dismissal and conviction codes (LJ Courts).

New Case Type & Sub Case Type

- The following Case Type and Sub Case Type were created to capture petitions for expungement when the court has no available criminal case.
 - New Case Type: Expungement
 - New Case Sub Type: Marijuana

New GJ Event Codes

Event Category	Description
PETITION	PETITION TO EXPUNGE RECORDS
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - GRANTED
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - DENIED
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - DISMISSED
RESPONSE	RESPONSE TO PETITION EXPUNGE RECORDS
REPLY	REPLY TO RESPONSE TO PETITION EXPUNGE RECORDS
MINUTE ENTRY	MINUTE ENTRY: EXPUNGEMENT HEARING

New LJ Event Codes

Event Category	Description
PETITION	PETITION TO EXPUNGE RECORDS
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - GRANTED
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - DENIED
ORDER	ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - DISMISSED
MOTION	RESPONSE TO PETITION EXPUNGE RECORDS
MOTION	REPLY TO RESPONSE TO PETITION EXPUNGE RECORDS

New GJ Appearance Reason

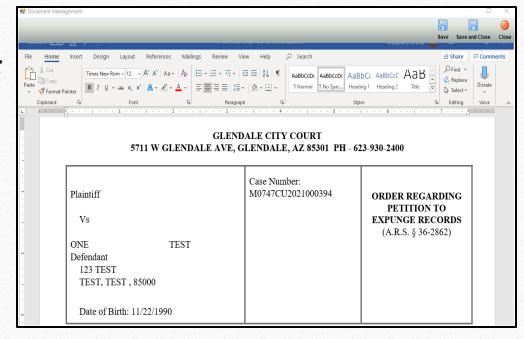
• A New Appearance Reason of Expungement was created when scheduling a hearing in the General Jurisdiction AJACS courts.

New Forms

- New Forms located at: www.azcourts.gov/selfservicecenter/Forms
 - Instructions for Seeking Expungement
 - Petition to Expunge Records: Limited Jurisdiction Court
 - Limited Jurisdiction Court Order re: Expungement
 - Petition to Expunge Records: Superior Court
 - Superior Court Order Re: Expungement

New Forms in LJ AJACS

- LJ AJACS databases will auto-generate the Limited Jurisdiction Court Order Expungement form when any one of the expungement order event codes are added.
- The court should still review the form before printing and saving since additional information or check boxes may need to be entered.



New Forms in GJ AJACS

- GJ AJACS database will generate the order form via e-bench.
- If forms are not e-filed or transmitted via e-bench, courts should still attach the scan documents to the corresponding new event codes.

Expungements in AJACS

Criminal Expungement Overview

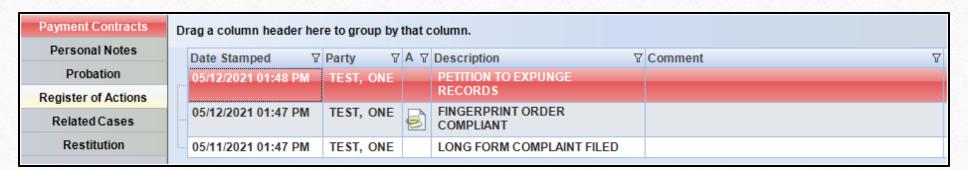
- Petition to expunge records is filed.
 - Date Stamp, docket and scan petition.
 - Send copy to prosecuting agency.
- Set Hearing, as necessary.
- Expungement Order.
 - If order is dismissed or denied: Docket and print order. Provide copies to all parties. Process is complete.
 - If order is granted: Docket and print order. Vacate all outstanding sentencing and financials related to the eligible charge(s) and quash any outstanding warrants. Seal charge(s), records and/or case as appropriate. Report to all applicable agencies.

- Petition must be filed in the court that resolved the case, rather than the court where the original complaint was filed.
- A prosecuting agency may file for expungement of a person's records, as permitted by ARS § 36-2862I.
- The court may not charge a fee for filing a petition.

- Date stamp and docket the petition.
- Add event code **Petition: Petition to Expunge Records**.
- Select the appropriate fields from the right-side tabs.



• Petition event code will display on ROA. Scan and attach petition to event.



- The court should provide notification of the filing to the prosecuting agency as soon as possible.
 - Use the event code **Response to Petition Expunge Records** to docket the responses from the prosecuting Agency.
 - Use the event code **Reply to Response to Petition Expunge Records** to docket the reply from the defendant.

- A 45-day tickler is auto-created with entry of the petition event. This provides the prosecutor with 30 days to respond and the defendant with 15 days to reply.
- The tickler is satisfied with any order to expunge. If tickler is not satisfied, the court can set-up the tickler to show in the Expired Ticklers Queue.
- If there is no response from the prosecutor or the prosecutor is the petitioner, then provide the petition and file to the judge for review.

Set Hearing as Necessary

- The court may set a hearing on the petition on either party's request or if the court concludes there are genuine issues of fact regarding whether the petition should be granted.
- The hearing must be held no later than 120 days after the petition is filed, unless the court finds good cause for an extension.

Types of Expungement Orders

Dismissed

The court may dismiss a petition that fails to provide sufficient information to identify the records to be expunged.

Denied

Prosecutor establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the subject of the petition is not eligible for expungement or if the court finds that the offense identified in the petition is not eligible for expungement.

Granted

If the petition is granted: the court must vacate the conviction and sentence, order that any record of the arrest, charge, conviction and sentence be expunged for any eligible count(s) and restore the civil rights of the subject of the petition, including the right to possess a firearm unless otherwise prohibited.

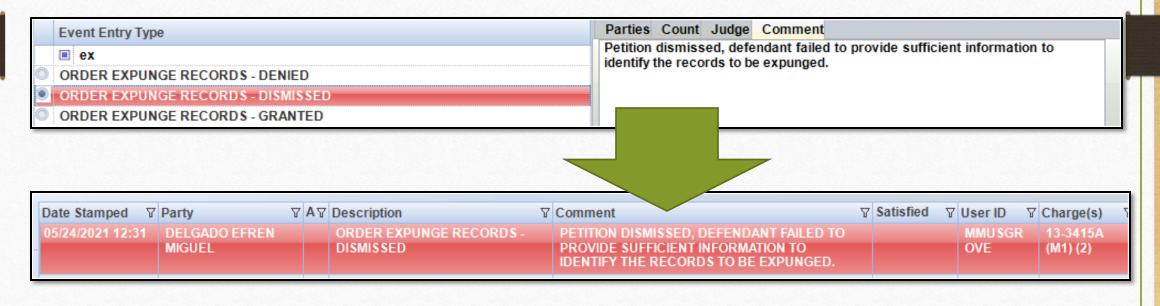
Expungement Order - Dismissed

- If order is dismissed, add event Order: Order Expunge Records- Dismissed.
- Select the appropriate fields from the Parties, Count, and Judge tab. Only select the party and charge count according to the expungement petition filed.

Event Types Related Events Attached Documents Forms / Ticklers		
Event Entry Type	Parties Count Judge Comment	
	Charge Description Charge Code Charge Count Charge Sequence	9
ORDER EXPUNGE RECORDS - DISMISSED	■ DRIVE WITH LICEN 28-3473A (M1) 1 1	
	▼ DRUG PARAPHERN 13-3415A (M1) 2 1	

Expungement Order - Dismissed

• NOTE: Text in Comment tab will display only on ROA event.



Expungement Order - Dismissed

- Expungement Order form will auto-generate.
- Verify that the correct fields are selected, print and save. Process is complete.

II. THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED (*check one*):

- **A.** [X] DISMISSING the Petition for lack of sufficient information. Petitioner may file a new Petition with additional information.
- **B.** [_] DENYING the Petition.

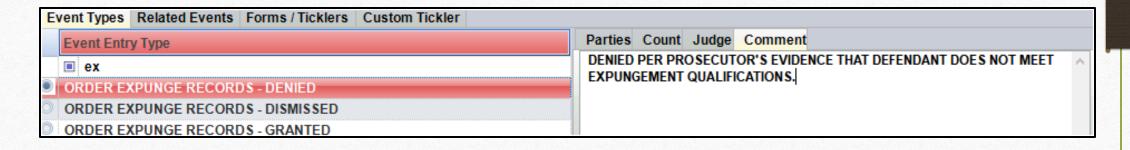
Expungement Order - Denied

- If order is denied, add event Order: Order Expunge Records-Denied.
- Select the appropriate fields from the Parties, Count, and Judge tab. Only select the party and charge count according to the expungement petition filed.



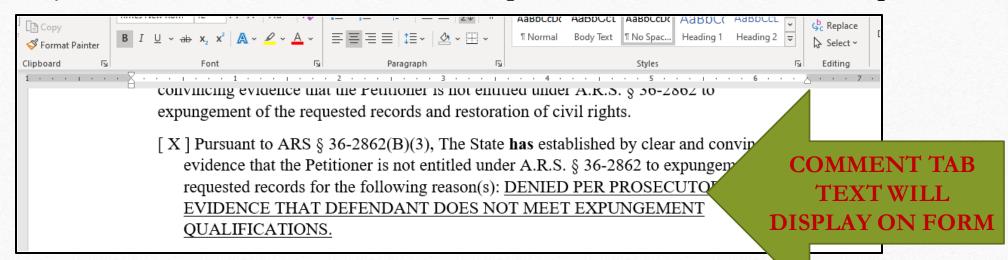
Expungement Order - Denied

• NOTE: Text in Comment tab will display on **ROA event and form**.

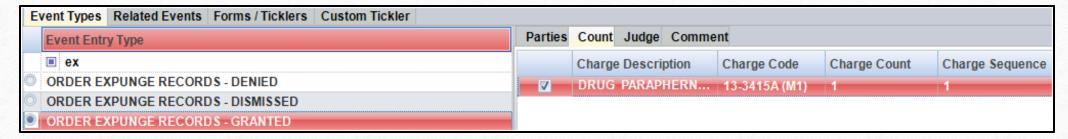


Expungement Order - Denied

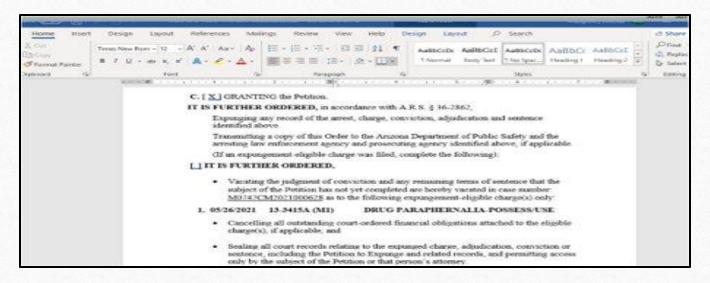
- Order Regarding Petition to Expunge Records form will auto-generate.
- Verify that the correct fields are selected, print and save. Process is complete.



- If order is granted, add event Order: Order Expunge Records-Granted.
- Select the appropriate fields from the Parties, Count, and Judge tab. Granted order will only allow eligible party and count for expungement to appear for selection.



- Order Regarding Petition to Expunge Records form will auto-generate.
- Verify that the correct fields are selected, print and save.



- If Granted, court must process according to the charge(s):
 - If pre-adjudication
 - Motion to Dismiss must first be filed and ordered to be dismissed with prejudice
 - Expunge and Seal charge(s) and/or case
 - If post adjudication
 - Vacate all outstanding sentencing and financials related to the charge and quash any outstanding warrants
 - Expunge and Seal charge(s) and/or case

• In the Charge/Sentencing Screen, select the Charge Change Type: Expunge/Seal. Check the Expunged Box and the Sealed box. The Remove from Public Access box will automatically be selected as a result. Click "Save and Close" icon.

Preparatory Offense	▼	Off. Type	MISDEMEANOR ▼	Jurisdiction	
Qualifier	▼	ACN#		Location	
Ch. DT.	04/28/2021	CTN	NEW COUNT	CATN	
Charge Change Type	EXPUNGE/SEAL ▼	CH. ST.	POST-ADJUDICATION -	Judge	
Tier	First Offense 🔻	Manual Closure	Expunged [Sealed Remove	from Public Access 🗸 🦠 St
Charge Identifier	Α	Charge Severity			
		Citing Agency	GLENDALE PD T		

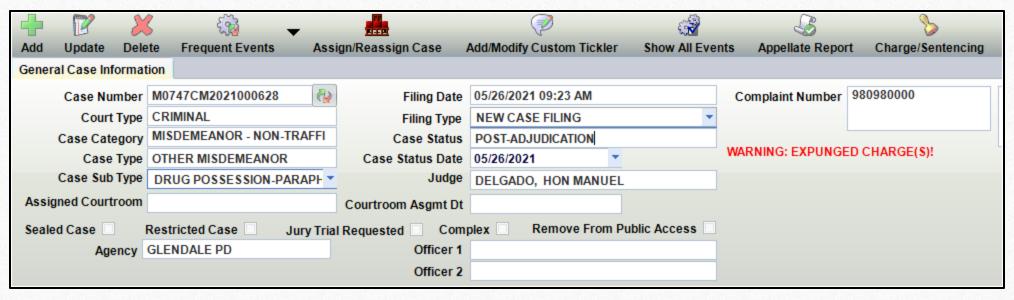
• Charge will now display the EX-Expunged Disposition.

Charge Code ∇	Charge Description ∇	Charge Class ∇	Charge Type 7	7 Disposition ∇	Disposed Date
13-3415A (M1)	DRUG PARAPHERNALIA- POSSESS/USE	MISD. 1ST DEGREE	MISDEMEANOR	EX-EXPUNGED	05/20/2021

• Charge Code and Charge Description will display as "Expunged and Sealed" if user does not have security rights set to view expunge/sealed charge(s) and/or cases.

Charge Code	∀ Charge Description	7	Charge Class	7	Charge Type	7	Disposition	7	Disposed Date
Expunged and Sealed	Expunged and Sealed		MISD. 1ST DEGREE		MISDEMEANOR		EX-EXPUNGED		05/20/2021

• Charge level warning will now also display on the GCI.



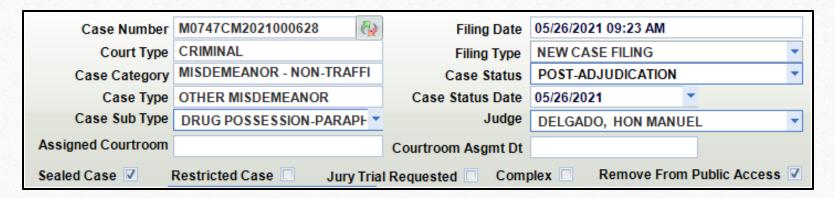
Expungement Order - Granted

- When sealing an expunged charge, all documents and events that are attached to the charge will be sealed.
- IMPORTANT: GJ courts that do not link their events and documents to a specific charge(s) will need to manually seal each event and document if the entire case can't be sealed.

Expungement Order - Granted

If all charges on the case are expunged, the court will need to seal the entire case.

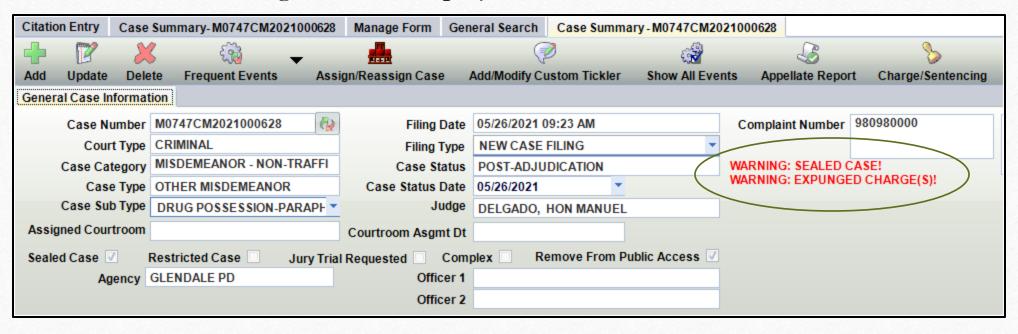
- Select the Case Admin Icon
- Click on the Sealed Case box from the GCI
- Select Save Case. The Remove from Public Access check box will auto-select.





Expungement Order - Granted

• Case level warning will also display on the GCI



Civil Expungement Overview

- If a criminal case does not exist in the case management system, create a civil case for the following situations:
 - Limited Jurisdiction Court when the criminal case has already been purged and/or destroyed.
 - General Jurisdiction Court when the petitioner is requesting that the arrest records be expunged, and a criminal case was never filed.

LJ AJACS- Creating a Civil Case

Court Type = CIVIL

Case Category = CIVIL

Case Type = EXPUNGEMENT

Case Sub Type = MARIJUANA

Filing type = NEW CASE FILING

Commenced By = PETITION



GJ AJACS- Creating a Civil Case

Court Type = CIVIL

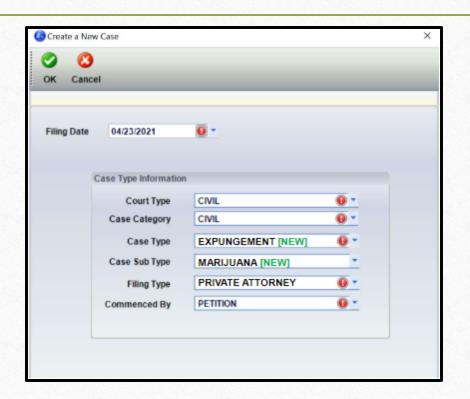
Case Category = CIVIL

Case Type = EXPUNGEMENT

Case Sub Type = MARIJUANA

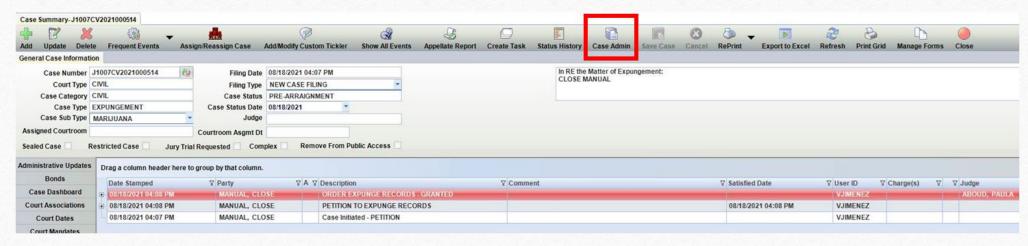
Filing type = *Varies by petitioner

Commenced By = PETITION



Closing Civil Expungement Cases

- After expungement order process is complete, the case status will need to be set to "Closed" since there are no charges on the case.
- From case level ribbon, select the Case Admin icon.



Closing Civil Expungement Cases

• Select Closed from the Case Status Menu. Update the Sealed/Remove from Public Access check boxes (for granted orders only). Select the Save Case icon.



Reporting
Expungement
for
Criminal &
Civil Cases

- If the court grants the petition, the court must transmit the order to the arresting law enforcement agency identified in the petition, and the Department of Public Safety.
- If the order is issued by a superior court, the court must also transmit the order to the justice court identified in the petition and to the probation department if a term of probation was imposed.

Updated Disposition Report

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AZ	10	DISE	POSIT	101	IR	EPC	RT									P.O. I	epartment of Public Safety Box 18450
NAME (Last, First, Middle)	- 4							DATE	OF BIR	тн		4 D	ATE OF A	RREST		PCN	nix, AZ 85005-8450
ARRESTING AGENCY ORI 7 A	ARRESTIN	IG AGENCY CASE	NO.		ВООКІ	NG AGENO	Y ORI	9 B	DOKING	NUMBE	ER	_					
10 CHARGES / AMENDED CHARGES	11	1	12	-	3 14	15	16	17	18 1	19 20	21	1 2	2 2	23	24	25	26
CHARGES: Please write literal. If more than three (3 charges list on second (2 rd) form.	3)	ARIZONA	Γ			, [Γ		900	8		_ [_ [_		Γ	Γ
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY: Fill in original char on line(s) a.	rge(s)	REVISED STATUTE	DATE	OF	DREPARATORY	SUC	DESIGNATED COURT	AMMENDED TO (4)	ызгозіпом соре	OR PRISON STHOF	(ds, mo, yr)	SENTENCE CODE	N N	FINE YES	COURT CASE/	DISPOSITION	AGENCY ORI MAKING
PROSECUTOR / COURT: Fill in amended charge(s) line(s) b.	on .	OR ORDINANCE		ION	PREPARA	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	NAME / IDENTIFIER	AMME	DISPO	LBNGT	OS (S)	SENTE	LENGTH (dx, mo, yr)	OR NO	NUMBER	DATE	DISPOSITION DECISION
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36													^	ò	- Acc	uitted	/ Not Guilty
7 FURTHER EXPLANATIONS OR MODIFICATION	ONS																
																	missed
DISPOSITION REPORT	14 F	PREPARATORY	15 DOMESTIC	VIOLEN	E OR VI	CTIM	18 DISPOSITION	CODES				APPE	LLA				Prosecution
A Disposition Report is required from the	, F	OFFENSE CODES	INFORMATION INFORM		_		AC - Acquitted / No CD - Court Dismiss	Guilty			AF	Affirm	ed	S	Defe	erred	Sentencing
disposition agency (arrest, prosecutor, or court) pursuant to the AZ Rules of Crimin		Attempted	M – Victim is a mi		ic violen	DE .	DP – Deferred Rose DS – Deferred S										per ARS §3
Procedure (Rule 37) for each person fingerprinted for a reportable crime		Conspiracy to commit	A – Victim is a vu	inerable	Adult		EX – Expunge p GG – Guilty GI – Guilty but I										hei wwo 3o
pursuant to ARS §41-1750.	F-F	Facilitate	L – Victim is a law	enforce	ment offic	ner	NF - No complaint f NP - Nollo Contend	re plea			RV	Rever	sed a	iG	– Gui	lty	
Please call DPS Criminal History Records (602) 223-2222 for assistance with this form.	8 -8	iolicit	C - Dangerous cr	imes agr	inst child	ren	NR – Not referred to PD – Pardoned PM – Pending due to			etency	SM -	Sente	nce!) I -	 Guilt 	y but	Insane
DPS 802-03757 Rev. 6-2021	\perp						PO - Plea to other o RI - Not responsible	harges by rea	son of in	sanity			-N	F	– No c	nmni	aint filed
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DPS Information

Mailing Address:

Criminal History Records Unit

PO Box 18450 Mail Drop 3110

Phoenix, AZ 85005

or

Scan order and FDR and email to: mcscdispos@azdps.gov

*Court must include contact info with the email submissions.

MVD Information

•Send order and manual abstract with a disposition code 78 to MVD to expunge the following reportable violations:

- •13-3405A4 Marijuana-transport and/or sell
- •13-3408A7 Narc Drug-Transp and/or sell

Mailing Address:

Mail Drop 537 M Motor Vehicle Division PO BOX 2100 Phoenix, AZ 85001-2100

Support Center Information

- Web: Submit a remedy requests http://azcourts.onelogin.com
- **Call:** (602) 452-3900 or (855) 229-3900
- Email: help@courts.az.gov

Additional Resources

- AOC Proposition 207 Webpage- FAQ (azcourts.gov)
- Administrative Directive 2021-14
- Supreme Court Administrative Order 2021-82
- Proposition 207 Informational/Sentencing Chart
- Marijuana Amounts: Legal/Illegal and Sentencing
- Criminal Rule 36
- <u>Legislation Ch.222, HB2171 55th Legislature, 1st Regular Session: Marijuana violations; court jurisdiction; procedures</u>
- Arizona Court Rules